

Message Text

SECRET

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73

ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 IO-13 DHA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 /070 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RFILLING

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

NEA:ARDA

AF - MR. SCHAUFLE

AF - AMB. BREWER

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O 092057Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 197262

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASST. SECRETARIES SCHAUFLE AND ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, SU, SA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SAUDI DEMARCHE ON SUDANESE EXECUTIONS

REF: JIDDA 5391 (NOTAL)

1. ALTHOUGH NUMBER OF EXECUTION VICTIMS IN SUDAN ADMITTED-
LY LARGE, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS QUESTION OF REPRESSION.
VICTIMS HAVE APPARENTLY ALL ADMITTED TO ENGAGING IN
TREASONOUS ACTS AGAINST LEGALLY CONSTITUTED GOVERNMENT,
A CRIME FOR WHICH THEY WERE TRIED PUBLICLY AND FOUND GUILTY
UNDER ARTICLE 96 OF THE SUDANESE PENAL CODE. MOREOVER,
THERE IS STRONG REASON TO DOUBT WHETHER NIMEIRI'S FORCEFUL
RESPONSE TO PERPETRATORS OF LAST MONTH'S ATTEMPTED COUP
WILL INDEED WEAKEN HIM DOMESTICALLY. IT IS GENERALLY

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CONCEDED BY SUDAN WATCHERS THAT NIMEIRI'S WILLINGNESS TO

USE FORCE WHEN HE DEEMS IT NECESSARY HAS BEEN ONE OF THE
EXPLANATIONS OF HIS SURVIVAL FOR SEVEN YEARS.

2. WE SEE NOTHING TO BE GAINED IN THIS CASE BY ENCOURAGING
OUTSIDERS TO ADVISE SUDANESE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH INTERNAL
DISSIDENCE. EGYPTIANS IN PARTICULAR ARE LIKELY TO GIVE US
DUSTY ANSWER IF WE GO TO THEM WITH THIS SINCE THEY WERE
CRITICAL OF US FOR WHAT THEY SAW AS OUR FAILURE TO EXPRESS
SUPPORT FOR NIMEIRI EARLY ENOUGH IN THE COUP. IT COULD

ALSO AROUSE MORE BASIC EGYPTIAN SUSPICION ABOUT OUR
ATTITUDE; FAHMY CLAIMS USG HAS ALWAYS BEEN KNOWN TO FAVOR
AL-MAHDI ELEMENTS IN SUDAN.

3. REFTTEL BEING REPEATED KHARTOUM. HABIB

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NNN

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